

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700208

### **ITEM 1. Proposed Project**

Our Law Enforcement project for the OHV grant program encompasses a wide variety of activities which are performed by the law enforcement division of the Needles Field Office for the administration of public lands. These activities include: delivering outreach to the public, enforcement of federal and state laws and regulations, monitoring of the OHV trail system, protection of fragile natural and cultural resources, providing emergency medical services, and ensuring the health and safety of the public land users. These activities will be conducted on the public lands that the Needles Field Office (NFO) administers which lie primarily in San Bernardino County just west of the Colorado River. The tri-county area surrounding Needles (San Bernardino County, CA, Clark County, NV and Mohave County, AZ) has a combined population of nearly 3.5 million people. As the population continues to grow, more and more people are discovering the vast amount of open space and the abundance of recreational opportunities which lie on public land located within the boundaries of the NFO. This increasing urban interface is providing new challenges and escalating the workload for the law enforcement division which is already responsible for patrolling over 3.3 million acres of public land.

The law enforcement division understands that BLM has a responsibility to educate the public about responsible uses of public lands. In order to accomplish this task, the division takes a proactive approach by providing information to visitors in the field, posting signage along our OHV route system and wilderness boundaries, taking part in special events such as "Free Fish Day", "Shop with a Cop", and Elementary School Programs, and working cooperatively with other Federal, State, and local agencies to provide a quality experience for public land users.

The Needles Field Office administers a vast amount of public land. There are 20 mountain ranges separated by eight major valleys. In 1994, the California Desert Protection Act designated 18 wilderness areas encompassing approximately 1.4 million acres. This is about 20% of the total amount of designated wilderness managed by BLM in the continental U.S. and is more acreage than any other single office in BLM. There are numerous routes which divide, cross, and parallel the wilderness areas. Many of these routes are only accessible by high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles, all terrain vehicles, and motorcycles which are equipped for riding on unimproved roads. There are over 3,200 miles of designated open routes which lie within the boundaries of the Needles Field Office and many of the routes receive a high volume of OHV use. This provides the law enforcement division with a unique challenge. Since our OHV opportunities are in such close proximity to the wilderness areas and other fragile desert lands we have to make sure that there is a sufficient balance between BLM's multiple goals of providing recreational opportunities to the public and protecting our resources.

### **ITEM 2. Project Coverage**

This grant will support law enforcement activities on 3,200 miles of open routes of travel found within the 3.3 million acres of public land managed by the NFO. The funding will provide for surveillance supplies such as cameras and sensors to monitor the route system, IT supplies which will be used to obtain data from the route system and special areas, communication supplies such as radio accessories in order to provide for the safety of the officers patrolling the areas, evidence supplies used to by the LE division, and various batteries for all of the LE divisions equipment. Additionally, it will support law enforcement patrols and special OHV enforcement operations in the 1.4 million acres of wilderness areas, Chemehuevi Wash Recreation area, Ivanpah Dry Lake Recreation Area, critical tortoise habitat, and the Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMA). Each location presents unique challenges to the law enforcement staff whose primary responsibilities while patrolling these areas not only includes the protection of natural and cultural resources, but the safety of the public as well.

### **ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols**

The law enforcement division of the NFO operates on a schedule that affords maximum flexibility. Officers work a schedule that does not mandate predetermined hours of coverage, but instead sets specific days that each officer will work. Typically, each officer is assigned to work 10-hour shifts per day, four days a week. During those 4 days a week, each officer patrols the route system, wilderness areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Desert Wildlife

Management Areas (DWMA), and Special Recreation Permits within their assigned patrol sector. Each of these special areas is patrolled at least once during the 4 day schedule. All work schedules include weekend workdays as part of the normal assignments. This flexibility allows the officers to adjust their work hours in order to focus on the changing conditions of the resource, criminal activity, and permitted events. One of the NFO law enforcement division's goals is to take a proactive approach to detect and deter illegal OHV activity. Due to the large amount of wilderness acreage near towns with growing populations, the division has put a high emphasis on monitoring wilderness areas. The LE division also relies on non-law enforcement staff from the recreation and resource division's to report illegal activity relating to OHV use in the Needles resource area. Each employee of the Needles office makes a conscious effort to observe OHV uses while they are conducting their regular duties in the field.

#### **ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel**

In fiscal year 2009 the NFO will be at full staffing with 5 full-time commissioned Law Enforcement Officers. This will be the first time we have accomplished this goal since 2005. Funds obtained through this grant will be used to pay a portion of each officer's overtime compensation while conducting high visibility OHV enforcement activities along wilderness boundaries, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), critical tortoise habitat, and Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMA). The grant would also provide funds to help supplement the cost of purchasing needed law enforcement equipment such as evidence and EMS supplies, ATV safety gear, DUI detection equipment, cameras for detecting wilderness intrusions, training equipment and required certification trainings.

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### Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

The NFO has 18 wilderness areas totaling 1.4 million acres, 13 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) totaling 96,000 acres, Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMA) totaling 1.2 million acres, 3 World War II era divisional training camps, the Amboy Crater National Natural Landmark, Chemehuevi Wash Recreation area, and the Ivanpah Dry Lake Recreation Area.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

Our Law Enforcement Project is directly related to sustaining OHV recreational opportunities and providing access to our non-motorized wilderness areas on the public lands administered by the Needles Field Office. The project incorporates public education and outreach, enforcement of regulations, monitoring of the OHV trail system, protection of fragile natural and cultural resources, providing emergency medical services, and ensuring the health and safety of the public land users. All of these activities are aimed at strengthening OHV recreation by satisfying the various interests BLM must provide for to satisfy our mission. By educating the public we not only offer them more recreational opportunities, but we also teach them how to recreate responsibly which will diminish unintentional impacts to the resources that we are mandated to protect. Lastly, by providing for the health and safety of the user we are ensuring the future use of public lands for generations to come.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

The NFO law enforcement division works cooperatively with the California Highway Patrol (CHP), Nevada Highway Patrol, Arizona Department of Public Safety, Las Vegas Metro Police Department, Bullhead City Police Department, Fort Mojave Tribal Police Department, San Bernardino County Sheriffs Department (SBSO), Mohave County Sheriffs Department, and Imperial County Sheriffs Department (ICSO) during informal activities involving search and rescue operations, emergency road closures, and when requested during law enforcement incidents. The division also works cooperatively with the SBSO, ICSO, and CHP during assignments at the Dumont Dunes and Imperial Dunes OHV areas, and during various outreach activities such as the Shop with a Cop program and the Needles, Ca. Holiday Parade. The division is also cross-delegated by the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation to perform law enforcement services in the jurisdictions of those agencies.

### Law Enforcement - Page 2

4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

Explain

The Needles Office does not recover any law enforcement costs associated with special OHV events. The OHV events that are conducted in the Needles Resource Area are organized by either non-profit groups or small organizations that are promoting safe, responsible, and family oriented OHV use on public lands. We feel that conducting cost recovery would put a negative burden on these groups and eliminate many of the OHV events that occur on our public lands.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

The training program of the NFO law enforcement division consists of several courses aimed at providing the officers with knowledge to: educate the public about the mission of BLM and the many different uses of public lands, safely operate OHVs on public lands, provide medical assistance to visitors, respond to incidents involving hazardous materials, and protect natural and cultural resources. Each officer is encouraged to request any training related to OHV and public land resources that they have an interest in attending. Officers are also required to maintain proficiency in ATV operation, defensive driving, EMS First Responder, and legal updates related to public land regulations.

Funds from this grant request will be used to send officers to courses such as: EMS First Responder, Haz-Mat Awareness, ATV Training, BLM Introduction to Resource Protection, and BLM Environmental Compliance in Law Enforcement.

### Law Enforcement - Page 3

7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:

### Law Enforcement - Page 4

10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:
- The Needles Field Office does not manage any designated OHV Recreation Facilities. However, the office does manage a trail system comprising over 3200 miles of designated dispersed routes. We have recently added developed camping areas at Horsethief Springs, Bonanza Springs, and Clark Mt. These areas offer OHV users a place to stage for the day or camp overnight. In addition, we also have areas such as Chemehuevi Wash and Ivanpah Dry Lake Bed which provide visitors with enjoyment similar to that which would be had at a recreation facility or open OHV area.
- The Needles Office currently manages these areas by providing law enforcement, safety and education programs, and routine maintenance to the signage and the facilities of the trail system and developed camping areas.
11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Needles Field Office		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Law Enforcement	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education &amp; Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>Our Law Enforcement project for the OHV grant program encompasses a wide variety of activities which are performed by the law enforcement division of the Needles Field Office for the administration of public lands. These activities include: delivering outreach to the public, enforcement of federal and state laws and regulations, monitoring of the OHV trail system, protection of fragile natural and cultural resources, providing emergency medical services, and ensuring the health and safety of the public land users. These activities will be conducted on the public lands that the Needles Field Office (NFO) administers which lie primarily in San Bernardino County just west of the Colorado River. The tri-county area surrounding Needles (San Bernardino County, CA, Clark County, NV and Mohave County, AZ) has a combined population of nearly 3.5 million people. As the population continues to grow, more and more people are discovering the vast amount of open space and the abundance of recreational opportunities which lie on public land located within the boundaries of the NFO. This increasing urban interface is providing new challenges and escalating the workload for the law enforcement division which is already responsible for patrolling over 3.3 million acres of public land.</p> <p>The law enforcement division understands that BLM has a responsibility to educate the public about responsible uses of public lands. In order to accomplish this task, the division takes a proactive approach by providing information to visitors in the field, posting signage along our OHV route system and wilderness boundaries, taking part in special events such as "Free Fish Day", "Shop with a Cop", and Elementary School Programs, and working cooperatively with other Federal, State, and local agencies to provide a quality experience for public land users.</p> <p>The Needles Field Office administers a vast amount of public land. There are 20 mountain ranges separated by eight major valleys. In 1994, the California Desert Protection Act designated 18 wilderness areas encompassing approximately 1.4 million acres. This is about 20% of the total amount of designated wilderness managed by BLM in the continental U.S. and is more acreage than any other single office in BLM. There are numerous routes which divide, cross, and parallel the wilderness areas. Many of these routes are only accessible by high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles, all terrain vehicles, and motorcycles which are equipped for riding on unimproved roads. There are over 3,200 miles of designated open routes which lie within the boundaries of the Needles Field Office and many of the routes receive a high volume of OHV use. This provides the law enforcement division with a unique challenge. Since our OHV opportunities are in such close proximity to the wilderness areas and other fragile desert lands we have to make sure that there is a sufficient balance between BLM's multiple goals of providing recreational opportunities to the public and protecting our resources.</p>		

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>						
<b>Program Expenses</b>						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Overtime	500.000	54.000	HRS	11,000.00	16,000.00	27,000.00
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Regular Time	10000.00 0	36.000	HRS	92,500.00	267,500.00	360,000.00
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Sunday Premium	2250.000	9.000	HRS	0.00	20,250.00	20,250.00
	Law Enforcement Officers Notes : Holiday Premium	400.000	36.000	HRS	0.00	14,400.00	14,400.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				103,500.00	318,150.00	421,650.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Other-Batteries, Misc. Supplies Notes : Batteries, Misc. Supplies Includes:  Equipment Batteries IT Supplies / Equipment Communication Supplies / Equipment OHV Supplies Trail Surveillance Supplies	1.000	10000.000	EA	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
	Other-Personal Duty Supplies Notes : Personal Duty Supplies Includes:  Duty Belt Supplies Safety Gear Evidence Supplies Investigation Materials	5.000	1500.000	EA	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
	Other-Radio Scanner	5.000	300.000	EA	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Scanners will be installed in patrol vehicles to monitor radio frequencies of supporting Law Enforcement agencies.						
	<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>				19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance	125000.00	0.470	MI	0.00	58,750.00	58,750.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-Utility Terrain Vehicle Notes : UTV:  Used for LE patrols of routes and trails not accessible by truck. Also used to monitor special recreation permits related to OHV activity.	1.000	14000.000	EA	14,000.00	0.00	14,000.00
	Other-ATV Trailer Notes : ATV Trailer:  Enclosed trailer to protect ATV from elements.	1.000	3000.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Purchases</b>				17,000.00	0.00	17,000.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				139,500.00	376,900.00	516,400.00
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				139,500.00	376,900.00	516,400.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>139,500.00</b>	<b>376,900.00</b>	<b>516,400.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	103,500.00	318,150.00	421,650.00	<p>Detailed description of how public comments affected the Law Enforcement Application.</p> <p>After reviewing the comments made by the public and OHV division the Needles LE division reassessed our needs and decided to remove the following items from our final grant submission: Breathalyzer, Vehicle Leveling Kit, Satellite Phone Service, Truck Vault, and UTV Trailer. Reevaluation of matching funds reviled the Resources, Recreation, Management, and Administrative Staff match would not change the percentage and removed to simplify the application.</p> <p>The Satellite Phone service moved to combined with the Satellite Phone equipment in the Needles Restoration Grant. The other items listed above were removed based upon a decision to utilize existing equipment instead of purchasing new equipment. The requested monies associated with the removed items were spread out between the Staff Overtime category and the Batteries, Misc, Supplies and Personal Duty Supplies category under Materials and Supplies. The materials and</p>
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00	



Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
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4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	58,750.00	58,750.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	17,000.00	0.00	17,000.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		139,500.00	376,900.00	516,400.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		139,500.00	376,900.00	516,400.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>139,500.00</b>	<b>376,900.00</b>	<b>516,400.00</b>	

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**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

Attachments:

[NFO 2009 OHMVRD LE Grant Catigorical Exclusion](#)